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is largely a matter of the institution of property and contract and, the writer concludes, "we cannot make much progress until we have adopted the social theory of property and the social theory of contract."

The World Decision. By ROBERT HERRICK. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1916. 8vo, pp. 253. \$1.25.

This recent addition to the literature of the present war may be described as a study in race psychology and national ideals. The author spent the greater part of last year in Italy and France, and has made a keen study of the attitudes of the Latin peoples. In his interpretation of the present struggle he is not concerned with the material or economic phases which have been so much emphasized by other writers. His interest lies rather in the ideals and impulses of which commercial rivalry or military operations are but the outward manifestations. To him the war appears as a conflict of ideals, a struggle between two opposed traditions of civilization. In this world-clash the significant thing is the "spiritual antagonism between the Latin and the German, between the two visions of the world which the German and the Latin imagine and seek to perpetuate" (p. 5). The fact that the Latin forces engaged possess less than half of the strength of the allied powers does not alter the author's firm conviction that the question at issue is whether the Latin or the German ideal shall dominate and assume the mental and spiritual leadership of the world.

Mr. Herrick has no patience with those who would condemn all wars as brutal, needless, or insane. While admitting all the horror and suffering which war involves, he maintains that circumstances may arise, and do arise, when the "pale concept of internationalism" cannot be expected to restrain the passion of patriotism. On the greater issues of life there is no possible neutrality, and patriotism is simply belief in an ideal. "Patriotism is the better part of man, his ideal of life woven in with his tissue. Men have always fought for these things—for their own earth, for their own kind, for their own ideal—and they will continue to give their blood for them as long as they are men, until wrong and unreason and aggression are effaced from the earth" (p. 95).

The National Budget System. By CHARLES WALLACE COLLINS. New York: Macmillan, 1917. 8vo, pp. vi+151. \$1.25.

The author has attempted to present in this small volume a "simple and direct description of the budget system and its relation to our government suitable to be put into the hands of the layman." In the opinion of the reviewer the attempt has been successful.

After a brief review of the preparation, ratification, execution, and audit and control of the budget in Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, and